

NEWS UPDATE

**Shelby County Office of Preparedness-Memphis & Shelby County
Emergency Management Agency-Bob Nations, Director**

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
(901) 515-2525



September 2, 2008 Evening Update

What's New Since the Last Update?

- Many evacuees have left hotels and are now going to area shelters to reduce travel expenses. As a result, other shelters may be opening. We'll keep you posted.
- Food is being served tonight from The Life Church at Memphis, 1800 North Germantown Parkway starting at 6 o'clock.

Shelter Status:

More than 3000 evacuees are staying in 20 Memphis area shelters. Seven (7) shelters are for FEMA-assisted evacuees only who arrived in Memphis by Amtrak train. Thirteen (13) additional shelters are serving evacuees:

- Hope Presbyterian Church-8500 Walnut Grove Road
- White Station Church of Christ-1101 Colonial Road
- Bellevue Baptist Church-2000 Appling Road
- Goodman Oaks Baptist Church-1700 Goodman Road, Southaven, Mississippi
- Longview Heights Baptist Church-4501 Goodman Road, Olive Branch, Mississippi
- Southaven Multipurpose Arena-7360 Highway 51, Southaven, Mississippi
- World Overcomers Outreach Ministries Church-6655 Winchester Road at Kirby Parkway
- First Baptist Church of West Memphis, Arkansas-200 Missouri Street
- Memphis Catholic High School-61 North McLean
- Bishop Byrne High School-1475 East Shelby Drive
- Cummings Street Baptist Church-250 East Raines Road
- G.W. Henderson Senior Center-1165 Abbey Street, Tunica, Mississippi
- Marion First Baptist Church-2137 Highway 77 Marion, Arkansas

People may go to these locations or call the shelter status hotline at (901) 324-8799 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or the Emergency Operations Center at (901) 515-2525 after 5 p.m. to check on availability.

A Word About Shelters

► **Should faith-based organizations want to open a shelter, the Emergency Operations Center should be contacted. The shelter will be listed along with the others in the daily updates to the community. Also, any facility opened as a shelter should be inspected to ensure it meets building and fire codes.**

What's Needed From the Public?

Personal care items: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, hairbrushes, combs, adult Depends, toilet tissue, baby food, baby wipes, diapers and towels. Pens, pencils, coloring books, crayons and poster boards are also needed. Donated supplies may be dropped off at a warehouse at 994 South Bellevue between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or at the Red Cross at 1400 Central Avenue during business hours.

THERE IS NOT YET A NEED FOR DONATED CLOTHES

Volunteers: Volunteers are **NEEDED** to help during the relief effort to work at area shelters seeing the needs of evacuees and serving food. People are also needed to build travel kits for the FEMA-assisted evacuees to take when they leave Memphis. Call the volunteer hotline **(901) 324-8799** between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for information.

Pets: Only “service dogs” are permitted in the shelter. The Memphis Humane Society-935 Farm Road and the Collierville Animal Shelter-603 East South Street are boarding pets for evacuees.

Food: Shelter food provided by Memphis City Schools. Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ at 369 G.E. Patterson Boulevard will be serving food tomorrow **(September 3)** from 11:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Food donations are also being accepted to help church shelters. Non-perishable items, canned goods and pre-packaged food should be taken to the donations warehouse at 994 South Bellevue or the Red Cross at 1400 Central Avenue.

Transportation: Provided by Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA) buses.

Area attractions: Many tourist attractions are discounting rates for evacuees. Contact the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau at **(901) 543-5375**.

Crime victims: Evacuees who are victims of crime may call the Shelby County Victims Assistance Center at **(901) 543-HELP (4357)** from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The center is located at 600 Adams Avenue.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness/EMA Operations Center is open 24 hours a day. For additional information, call **(901) 515-2525**.

(END OF RELEASE)